

## NEC's response to the query from Business & Human Rights Resource Centre

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022

NEC Corporation

### 1. NEC's basic standpoint

NEC believes that the use of ICT can provide society with value that includes safety, security, fairness, and efficiency. Moreover, NEC also believes that it is necessary to prevent or minimize any potential negative impact business activities may have on the human rights of its stakeholders.

NEC formulated the "NEC Group AI and Human Rights Principles" as a guideline for promoting business activities among the social implementation of AI and the utilization of biometrics and other data. Based on these principles, when promoting businesses related to the utilization of AI, NEC complies with the relevant laws and regulations of each country and region, and each employee aims to perform all stages of corporate activities, such as dialogue and co-creation, in cooperation with various stakeholders. Furthermore, NEC recognizes respect for human rights as the highest priority in each and every stage of its business operations, which is also outlined in the principles, and links this position to its actions.

### 2. Answers to the seven questions mentioned in [the recent Access Now's blog post](#)

- ① Does your company distribute surveillance solutions to governments in Latin America? If so, which products and to which states in Latin America? Which of your surveillance solutions products and services are most widely distributed in Latin America?

**(Answer)**

**In Latin America, NEC is implementing city management and building smart cities in order to create safe and secure cities and improve transportation. As part of this, cameras, networks and other IT equipment have been introduced in cities that include Tigre and San Martin in Argentina.**

**The most widely introduced type of system is a combination of CCTV, monitoring center and network infrastructure.**

**For some customers, we provide solutions using biometric authentication technology in accordance with the "NEC Group AI and Human Rights Principles."**

- ② Do third-party companies resell your surveillance solutions to Latin America states? If so, who are your resellers?

**(Answer)**

**All of the above systems are contracted between NEC's local subsidiaries and their customers. There is no use of 3rd parties.**

- ③ Do you or your resellers have contracts or agreements with Latin American governments to provide surveillance solutions? What do these agreements look like and what technologies are involved?

**(Answer)**

**NEC has contracts with government agencies in Latin America. The technologies NEC provides are described in the answer to question 1.**

- ④ What kind of support do you provide to your clients after distributing your surveillance solutions?

**(Answer)**

**NEC provides support for system maintenance, such as assisting with hardware or software issues and providing system updates.**

- ⑤ Do you or your resellers have access to data collected in any country in Latin America? If yes: What are the characteristics of that data? According to your privacy policy, could that data be shared with any third parties or companies in the same corporate group?

**(Answer)**

**NEC does not directly access any collected data. Therefore, we do not share data with third**

**parties.**

- ⑥ Do you have a policy, protocol, or internal process governing your provision of surveillance solutions to governments? Do you do an assessment of the authority's human rights violations records before closing the agreements? Under what circumstances would you limit or restrict your provision of surveillance solutions to government clients?

**(Answer)**

In addition to thorough compliance with export controls, in April 2019, NEC formulated principles on human rights, the "NEC Group AI and Human Rights Principles". Before making a proposal to a potential customer, NEC confirms the positions of the partner country's government, the use of the service or solution we provide and its lawfulness. We have a process that allows us to make proposals only after making a decision on whether the project is in line with NEC's principles. Even during pre-order screening, there is a mechanism in place to confirm whether NEC principles are being followed.

- ⑦ What actions are being taken by your company to ensure that the surveillance solutions that you distribute in Latin America are not being used to abuse human rights?

**(Answer)**

If human rights violations are found, we will check the facts in accordance with the NEC Principles and take appropriate measures as needed, including communicating with the customers.

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